

## **Minutes of the Judiciary and Law Enforcement Committee - June 3, 2005**

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Mitchell. Supervisor Tortomasi led the committee with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Present:** Chair William Mitchell, County Board Supervisors Kathleen Cummings (arrived at 8:48 a.m.), Keith Harenda, Mareth Kipp (arrived at 8:37 a.m.), Carl Seitz, David Swan, Jean Tortomasi

**Staff Present:** Legislative Policy Advisor Mark Mader, Legis. Associate Sandra Meisenheimer

**Also Present:** Emergency Management Coordinator Jim Malueg, District Attorney Paul Bucher

### **Approve Minutes of May 13, 2005**

**Motion:** Harenda moved, second by Seitz, to approve the minutes of 5/13/05. **Motion carried 5 – 0.**

### **Correspondence**

Chair Mitchell addressed the following items:

1. Email forwarded to Dave Swan from Reverend Carolyn Sellers regarding the need to treat and rehabilitate people rather than the tendency of governing parties to build bigger and better prisons.
2. Bureau of Justice Statistics Bulletin for February 2005.

### **Executive Committee Report by Chair Mitchell for Meeting of May 16, 2005**

Mitchell reported on items that were taken up at the last meeting on 5/16/05: 1) Directors Shaver and Jante presented the ordinance for Acceptance of Year 2005 Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Planning Grant; 2) discussed funding of Waukesha County Federated Library Study; 3) Mike Biagioli (IS Mgr.) discussed the Information Systems flow chart; 4) considered several appointments; and 5) committee chairs gave their reports.

### **Future Agenda Items by Committee Members**

Kipp said she would like Shelly Cyrulik to give another update on CJCC.

### **Future Meeting Dates**

The next committee meeting is scheduled for June 17, 2005. Swan and Kipp advised that they would not be at the next meeting.

### **Update on Emergency Government Activities and Grants to Include Information on NIMS (National Incident Management System)**

Malueg stated as a result of 9-1-1 the federal government rewrote their national response plan. What that means for Waukesha County is that the State and counties have to rewrite their local emergency plans to conform with the new national response plan. Part of the plan is NIMS, which comes out of a presidential directive that was issued after 9-1-1 for all jurisdictions across the country to work together to prepare, prevent and respond to events of terrorism. NIMS is the management system that mandates everyone in emergency response to adopt. Over the next two years everyone across the country should become compliant.

Malueg stated there are a number of training requirements to reach compliance. There is an on-line awareness course that people can take. Another component of NIMS is the incident command system, which fire and police have been using for years, but now agencies such as public health and public works need to get on board with training. The State has designated WCTC as the focal point for providing the incident command system training. A timeframe also needs to be established for

total compliance, which is due by end of the fiscal year. Malueg said what they are telling us is future eligibility for Homeland Security grant dollars is going to be tied to a jurisdiction's compliance with this system.

Tortomasi asked do you have any preliminary timeframe for total compliance? Malueg said the federal government has indicated that compliance should be by the end of federal fiscal year 2006, which is the end of September 2006. By the end of federal fiscal year 2007 (September 2007), federal preparedness assistance dollars will be conditioned by full compliance with NIMS.

Tortomasi asked if hospital personnel participate. Malueg said yes they are supposed to. Swan said he has always been for practicing these kinds of programs. Is there anything coming up in the future? Malueg said at the end of this month, there are two exercises scheduled. One is for the County Business Continuity Plan (June 28) wherein the county damage assessment team will assess damage in the case of a building being lost, etc. The other is a tabletop exercise (June 30) in the new County Emergency Operations Center (Waukesha Communications Center), which is for county staff to respond to a scenario that impacts Waukesha County. Also, in the fall there will be a pretty large mass casualty-type event for the hospitals.

Mitchell asked when will your office move to the Communications Center? Malueg said they are looking at June 14.

Malueg said other activities to report on include receiving \$650,000 from the Urban Area Security Initiative Program, which will provide new federation technology infrastructure to support the mobile data computers in squad cars throughout the county. This project is moving ahead. They've also been advised that the 2005 county equipment grant will be slightly under \$200,000. This is the program used to buy equipment for police and fire departments, the card access system in the courthouse, and handheld radios in the Sheriff's Department and Public Health Department.

### **Legislative Update**

Mader distributed Dave Krahn's handout of 6/3/05 relative to 2005 State Legislation as it pertains to the Judiciary Committee. Mader stated that there aren't any significant changes but differences from the last report are bolded. Krahn has been in Madison almost every day following the State budget.

### **Status Update of District Attorney's Strategic Plan to Include Victims/Witness Activities**

Bucher said the format is being revised for the new strategic plan, but he will not have a strategic plan. He has no point person available to work on it so are using their old strategic plan, which will be brushed up and revised. Basically, it will be to maintain the current level of services they have without any significant financial cuts. They are continually looking for grants, and Judge Bohren just called advising of a grant for Internet safety. The biggest problem though is they don't have the personnel. Even if he wanted to do Internet safety, he doesn't have the people.

Bucher stated the current State statistics that he just received a month ago indicate they are 5.35 prosecutors understaffed and probably the #1 office understaffed statewide in terms of assistant district attorneys. They are truly drowning in number of cases. It is even difficult to maintain status quo much less trying to initiate new programs. In addition, they might lose another prosecutor in 2006.

Bucher stated that there also has been a significant removal of federal funding which is having an impact on their Drug Unit. They might lose 55% of federal funding for their Drug Unit. If that happens there is a strong possibility they will lose their drug prosecutor, which brings it down to 14 ½ prosecutors. This is where it was when he became district attorney. Not having a drug prosecutor will be detrimental to his office and the Drug Unit.

Bucher stated getting back to the strategic plan, everything is just to maintain, and he does not expect any new programs unless there is a huge influx of additional monies. The Domestic Violence Unit will be continued, and he actually is the Domestic Violence Unit. They continue to try to expand the Domestic Violence Unit and partner with La Casa De Esperanza but have not been too successful in that regard. They also attempt to look for and apply for new grants but they are few and far between. For whatever reason, they do not qualify for the grants that are out there. Their primary goal is to maintain the Domestic Violence and Drug Units.

Mitchell asked how is PROTECT doing? Bucher replied that PROTECT is fully implemented. There are some challenges but overall it is functioning fairly well, and they want to continue the process of integrating with other law enforcement agencies.

Relative to the 2003 Strategic Plan, Swan said what he didn't hear anything about is -- I. Attract and maintain a diverse, well-trained, and competent work force/staff. He asked what are your thoughts on this and what is happening to your staff to move them on a timely, continuous basis into advanced training? Bucher said it is stagnant or it's going to be removed. Right now all of the free training is through the National District Attorney's Assn., which provides periodic training at a facility in North Carolina but you have to bid for it. Other training is through the Wisconsin Department of Justice State Prosecutor Education Training Program, which offers two sessions per year and is paid for out of the budget. However, he fears that training will be cut because of the financial situation that exists. They used to go to national conferences but haven't sent anyone in two years. Actually though they don't have the personnel to send because they are so strapped. His support staff hasn't been to any conference or seminar in three years.

Dunn gave a brief report on the Victims/Witness Program. Last year they helped 4,300 victims, which is an increase of 300 from the previous year. When she started in 1997, there were about 2,500 victims. She is working on the grant now for Mobile Victims Assistance, which is their crisis response unit, and the Homicide Program. They want cost-to-continue but have been told they won't get it so they have to figure out how to manage with \$15,000 less. Regarding the Homicide Program, they had about 400 people last year.

**Motion to adjourn:** Swan moved, second by Harenda, to adjourn the meeting at 10:23 a.m.  
Motion carried 7 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Mareth K. Kipp  
Secretary

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